

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image formation device that fixes toner images,
which are transferred with toners of multiple colors onto a
5 recording medium, such as paper, so as to form a color image,
said image formation device comprising:

a specification module that specifies either formation
of a composite color image or formation of a monochromatic
image; and

10 a control module that, when said specification module
specifies formation of the composite color image, controls to
selectively adapt a fixation process, which fixes the
transferred toner image on the recording medium, for formation
of the composite color image, while controlling to selectively
15 adapt the fixation process for formation of the monochromatic
image when said specification module specifies formation of
the monochromatic image.

2. An image formation device in accordance with claim
20 1, said image formation device further comprising:

an information acquisition module that acquires
information on color of toner filled in each toner cartridge
from each of storage elements mounted on multiple toner

cartridges, which are attached to said image formation device,

wherein said specification module specifies formation of the composite color image or formation of the monochromatic image, based on the information on the color of toner acquired

5 by said information acquisition module.

3. An image formation device in accordance with claim 2, wherein the composite color image is formed with toners of at least three primary colors, cyan, magenta, and yellow, and

10 said specification module specifies formation of the composite color image when the colors of toners filled in said multiple toner cartridges include all of the three primary colors, while specifying formation of the monochromatic image when the colors of toners filled in said multiple toner
15 cartridges exclude at least one of the three primary colors.

4. An image formation device in accordance with claim 2, wherein said specification module specifies formation of the composite color image when the colors of toners filled in
20 said multiple toner cartridges include any color other than black, while specifying formation of the monochromatic image when the colors of toners filled in said multiple toner cartridges are all black.

5. An image formation device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said control module controls to carry out the fixation process at a first fixation temperature when said specification module specifies formation of the composite color image, while controlling to carry out the fixation process at a second fixation temperature, which is lower than the first fixation temperature, when said specification module specifies formation of the monochromatic image.

10

6. An image formation device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said control module controls to carry out the fixation process at a first fixation pressure when said specification module specifies formation of the composite color image, while controlling to carry out the fixation process at a second fixation pressure, which is lower than the first fixation pressure, when said specification module specifies formation of the monochromatic image.

15

7. An image formation device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said control module controls to carry out the fixation process at a setting of a first revolving frequency to a preliminary revolving frequency of a fixation roller when

said specification module specifies formation of the composite color image, while controlling to carry out the fixation process at a setting of a second revolving frequency, which is lower than the first revolving frequency, to the preliminary
5 revolving frequency of the fixation roller when said specification module specifies formation of the monochromatic image.

8. An image formation method that fixes toner images,
10 which are transferred with toners of multiple colors onto a recording medium, such as paper, so as to form a color image, said image formation method comprising the steps of:

(a) specifying either formation of a composite color image or formation of a monochromatic image; and

15 (b) controlling to selectively adapt a fixation process, which fixes the transferred toner image on the recording medium, for formation of the composite color image when formation of the composite color image is specified in said step(a), while controlling to selectively adapt the fixation process for
20 formation of the monochromatic image when formation of the monochromatic image is specified in said step(a).

9. An image formation method in accordance with claim

8, wherein said step(a) specifies formation of the composite color image or formation of the monochromatic image, based on information on color of toner filled in each toner cartridge acquired from each of storage elements mounted on multiple
5 toner cartridges, which are attached to an image formation device.

10. An image formation method in accordance with claim 9, wherein the composite color image is formed with toners of
10 at least three primary colors, cyan, magenta, and yellow, and

said step(a) specifies formation of the composite color image when the colors of toners filled in said multiple toner cartridges include all of the three primary colors, while specifying formation of the monochromatic image when the colors
15 of toners filled in said multiple toner cartridges exclude at least one of the three primary colors.

11. An image formation method in accordance with claim 9, wherein said step(a) specifies formation of the composite
20 color image when the colors of toners filled in said multiple toner cartridges include any color other than black, while specifying formation of the monochromatic image when the colors of toners filled in said multiple toner cartridges are all

black.

12. An image formation method in accordance with claim
8, wherein said step(b) controls to carry out the fixation
5 process at a first fixation temperature when said step(a)
specifies formation of the composite color image, while
controlling to carry out the fixation process at a second
fixation temperature, which is lower than the first fixation
temperature, when said step(a) specifies formation of the
10 monochromatic image.

13. An image formation method in accordance with claim
8, wherein said step(b) controls to carry out the fixation
process at a first fixation pressure when said step(a)
15 specifies formation of the composite color image, while
controlling to carry out the fixation process at a second
fixation pressure, which is lower than the first fixation
pressure, when said step(a) specifies formation of the
monochromatic image.

20

14. An image formation method in accordance with claim
8, wherein said step(b) controls to carry out the fixation
process at a setting of a first revolving frequency to a

preliminary revolving frequency of a fixation roller when said
step(a) specifies formation of the composite color image, while
controlling to carry out the fixation process at a setting of
a second revolving frequency, which is lower than the first
5 revolving frequency, to the preliminary revolving frequency
of the fixation roller when said step(a) specifies formation
of the monochromatic image.